

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GEORGE 00739 071754Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01
USIA-06 SS-15 NSC-05 /060 W
-----006519 072228Z /66

R 071641Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6329
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GETRGETOWN 0739

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, GY, UR
SUBJECT: ELVIN MCDAVID'S APPOINTMENT AS AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW
ANNOUNCED

REF: GEORGETOWN 0734

1. AFTER BEING RUMORED FOR ALMOST A YEAR, THE APPOINTMENT OF ELVIN MCDAVID AS GUYANA'S FIRST AMBASSADOR TO THE SOVIET UNION WAS OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED ON MARCH 6. MCDAVID HAD BEEN SERVING AS PERMANENT SECRETARY IN THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY IN THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE IN THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL CONGRESS, THE RULING PARTY IN GUYANA. EMBASSY SOURCE HAS INFORMED US MCDAVID IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART FOR MOSCOW ON MARCH 29.

2. MCDAVID WAS BORN ON [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 08 DEC 2014] IN GEORGETOWN. AFTER ATTENDING LOCAL SCHOOLS HE RECEIVED A B.SC. (WITH HONORS) DEGREE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE FROM BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GEORGE 00739 071754Z

ENGLAND IN 1970. HE WAS ACTIVE IN PNC PARTY AFFAIRS IN THE UK AND RETURNED TO GUYANA EVERY SUMMER TO WORK IN THE OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER. AFTER GRADUATING AND RETURNING TO GUYANA, MCDAVID BECAME SPECIAL POLITICAL ASSISTANT TO THE PM AND WAS IN CHARGE OF A PROGRAM TO REPATRIATE SKILLED GUYANESE. FROM AUGUST 1971 TO JULY OF 1972 MCDAVID WAS MINISTER OF INFORMATION. IT IS BELIEVED

THAT HE LOST HIS PORTFOLIO BECAUSE OF HIS POOR ADMINISTRATIVE ABILITIES. MCDAVID THEN BECAME AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE PNC AND HELPED TO ORGANIZE THE GUYANA NATIONAL SERVICE.

3. HE WAS THE PNC DELEGATE TO THE WORLD PEACE COUNCIL MEETINGS IN MOSCOW (JANUARY 1977) AND WARSAW (MAY 1977). MCDAVID HAS ALSO TRAVELED TO BULGARIA, FINLAND, CUBA, NORTH KOREA, JAMAICA AND IN LATIN AMERICA. MCDAVID IS CONSIDERED TO BE ONE OF THE YOUNG RADICALS WITHIN THE PNC. HE HAS A REPUTATION OF BEING ANTI-AMERICAN AND REPORTEDLY ATTEMPTED TO ORGANIZE HARASSMENT OF US EMBASSY PERSONNEL FOLLOWING THE OCTOBER 6, 1976 CRASH OF A CUBANA AIRLINER. HOWEVER, IN RECENT MONTHS HE HAS BEEN QUITE CORDIAL DURING SOCIAL ENCOUNTERS WITH EMBOFFS. MCDAVID'S PENCHANT FOR HARD WORK AND AS AN "IDEA MAN" REPORTEDLY HAVE IMPRESSED BURNHAM. THE EMBASSY REGARDS HIM MORE AS AN OPPORTUNIST THAN AN IDEOLOGUE OF THE LEFT. HE IS DIVORCED FROM DAWN FORDE. IN 1975 HE WAS MARRIED TO TESSA CAMILLO MOORE, A NIECE OF PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM.

4. SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER CECIL PILGRIM WILL BE THE NUMBER TWO MAN IN THE GUYANESE MISSION TO MOSCOW. PILGRIM HAS PREVIOUSLY SERVED IN JAMAICA AND THE PRC. HE WILL HEAD AN ADVANCE PARTY THAT IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GEORGE 00739 071754Z

FOR MOSCOW ON MARCH 12.
BLACKEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADORS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GEORGE00739
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780103-0430
Format: TEL
From: GEORGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780399/aaaadfta.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9ed432cc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 GEORGETOWN 734
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3420917
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ELVIN MCDAVID'S APPOINTMENT AS AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW ANNOUNCED
TAGS: PDIP, GY, UR, (MC DAVID, ELVIN)
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9ed432cc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014